ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AVERA INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN BEHAVIORAL GENETICS: AN EXAMPLE OF A SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND HEALTH CARE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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ABSTRACT

Two years ago the Avera Institute for Human Behavioral Genetics (AIHBG) was established at the Avera Behavioral Health Hospital in Sioux Falls through a collaboration between South Dakota State University College of Pharmacy, the Department of Psychiatry, Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota and Avera Health. Over that period of time the laboratory has successfully completed candidate gene studies, gene cloning and expression studies and whole genome copy number variation studies with DNA samples collected by expert investigators around the world. During this period of development the laboratory has trained students from the College of Pharmacy, the Medical School, and the Psychiatric Residency Program.

This presentation will outline the development of the AIHBG, its goals and missions and the impact the institute has had and will have on research and behavioral health in South Dakota.